

## REMARKS

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, Applicants believe they have complied with the Sequence Rules set forth in the Office communication of June 30, 2003. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

### ***In the Specification:***

The description of Figure 2 has been amended to indicate that the eight primers correspond to SEQ ID NOs 6-13.

### ***In the Drawings:***

In order to comply with the Sequence Rules, Figures 3 and 9 have been amended. Figure 3 has been amended to show that two nucleotide sequences are illustrated, as well as, the orientation of each sequence (5' to 3' or 3' to 5'). The SEQ ID NOs that correspond to the two sequences are SEQ ID NOs 14 and 15. SEQ ID NO 14 corresponds to the sequence in the 5' to 3' orientation and SEQ ID NO 15 corresponds to the sequence in the 3' to 5' orientation. Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.822(c)(5), SEQ ID NOs 14 and 15 in the Sequence Listing are both written in the 5' to 3' orientation.

Figure 9 has been amended to show that two nucleotide sequences are illustrated, as well as, the orientation of each sequence (5' to 3' or 3' to 5'). The SEQ ID NOs that correspond to the two sequences are SEQ ID NOs 21 and 22. SEQ ID NO 21 corresponds to the sequence in the 5' to 3' orientation and SEQ ID NO 22 corresponds to the sequence in the 3' to 5' orientation. Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.822(c)(5), SEQ ID NOs 21 and 22 in the Sequence Listing are both written in the 5' to 3' orientation.

Thus, Applicants have complied with the Sequence Rules and believe the foregoing amendments are fully responsive to the Office communication dated June 30, 2003. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the amendments be entered and reconsideration of the Office communication.

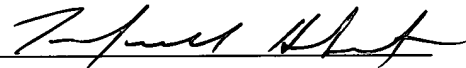
### CONCLUSION

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office communication. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Response is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

SHANKS & HERBERT

By:   
Toni-Junell Herbert  
Reg. No. 34,348

Date: 7/24/03

TransPotomac Plaza  
1033 N. Fairfax Street  
Suite 306  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
(703) 683-3600